greatly encourage the planting of such trees in large numbers.

Instead of the land-holders being made liable for the destruction of sandal trees on occupied lands the real culprits may be traced and punished. Land-holders may be permitted to own the trees which naturally grow on their lands to the detriment of the garden cultivation, or the trees may be allowed to be destroyed so as to prevent the deterioration of their lands and save them from the clutches of subordinate officers.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 127.

(1) Reduction or abolition of seigniorage on firewood in the malnad.

(2) Seigniorage on fuel in the Shimoga District to be done away with or reduced.

Messrs. (1) Bhaskar Rao, Sorab Taluk and (2) Sitaramaiya, Shimga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) A seigniorage of four annas per cart-load of fuel is now levied in the malnad. Every poor man in the malnad requires, for his use, at least 20 cart-loads of fuel. As the present seigniorage rate is rather heavy to the poorer class of people in the malnad, it is prayed that it may be reduced from four to two annas or abolished completely.

As district jungles have not been assigned to some villages, the raiyats thereof have to obtain fuel for their domestic purposes and for sugar-cane mills on payment of a seigniorage of four annas per cart-load. As this rate is heavy, it may be reduced to two annas.

(2) This tax is heavy in the Shimoga District, especially in and about the town of Shimoga, and causes inconvenience to the public. In addition to the seigniorage, toll is also collected. The seigniorage may be either abolished altogether or reduced to one anna per cart-load.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be reduced. The purposes for which the toll and seigniorage are levied are quite distinct from each other.

SUBJECT No. 128.

Grant of jambe and bhogi trees at concession rates.

Messrs. Subrayabhatta, and Seshappa, Tirthahalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Ordinary wood does not stand the malnad weather for a long time on account of the heavy rains. It is therefore prayed that jambe and bhogi may, as before, be granted to the raiyats for their domestic use at concession rates under the Raiyats' Privileges Rules.

Reply of Government.—Further concessions cannot be granted.

SUBJECT No. 129.

(*a*) Grant of honne and bete wood without seigniorage to the raiyats for agricultural implements.

(*b*) Free grant of green wood for agricultural purposes.

(*a*) Messrs. Nadig Bhasker Rao, and Lakshmana Rao, Sorab Taluk.

(*b*) Mr. H. V. Bhima Rao, Malur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Matti is now exempt from seigniorage when it is taken by raiyats for agricultural implements. Honne and bete are also often used for this purpose. As implements made of other trees are not durable, it is requested that the present concession may be extended in the case of honne and bete trees.

(*b*) (i) The existing rate of seigniorage on firewood is very high. It may be slightly reduced.

(ii) It is prayed that at least the honge, hunalu and kagli trees may be excluded from the list of classified trees and the raiyats allowed to cut and remove green firewood from District Forests for agricultural purposes.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) As agreed to by the Conservator of Forests the tops and lops of honne trees out of the annual coupe fellings will be given free in the Shikarpur, Sorab and Sagar Taluks for ploughs and agricultural implements.

(*b*) Cannot be done.

SUBJECT No. 130.

Free grant of hongarike sticks for sugar-cane mills.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Forest Department has provided no facilities to the raiyats for taking hongarike sticks for use in places where sugar-cane is milled. This has retarded the sugar industry. The hongarike is of no use to the Forest Department, as it catches fire in the summer and springs up again in the winter. The poor raiyats may be allowed to take this free.

Permission should be given to take the sticks from State Forests as they are not found in sufficient quantities in District Forests. They are usually consumed in forest fires and are of no value as timber.

Reply of Government.—Permission cannot be given to take them from State Forests as a matter of course. But such permission will be given by the Conservator when there is no objection to remove them from specified tracts.

SUBJECT No. 131.

Free grant of hebbidaru.

Messrs. Srinivasa Dikshit and Bhavani Rao, Shikarpur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Orders have now been passed directing the free grant of hebbidaru in the malnad tracts. This concession may be extended to the semi-maidan taluks also.

Reply of Government.—The Conservator will be requested to extend the concession to the semi-malnad taluks of Shikarpur and Shimoga.

SUBJECT No. 132.

Inconvenience caused to the malnad raiyats by forest reservation.

(1) Messrs. Seshappa and Subraya Bhatta, Tirthahalli Taluk.
(2) Mr. C. Nagappa, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) For the benefit of the malnad raiyats grazing and soppin betta lands have been left free from time immemorial and they have been given the right to use green leaves for manure and to take firewood for domestic purposes. These rights, however, are now interfered with even in the vicinity of inhabited villages by the inclusion of these lands in the forest areas that are now being reserved. Even free grazing lands have been greatly diminished. Whenever reservations are made the mamool rights of the raiyats should not be curtailed. Subject No. 180 of 1906 dealing with this question was referred to the Revenue Commissioner and the Conservator of Forests for opinion; but no orders have yet